delivery charge of Rs. 5/- from retail selling price. Oil Companies have not come across any case of LPG connection having been issued in the name of bogus consumer in place of real name.

Crude Oil availabity for Refinery in Assam

1624. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the proposed and present source of crude oil availability for each refinery in Assam against the existing refining capacity;

(b) the present production level and future prospects of natural gas and crude oil fields in Assam;

(c) the details of finding of Brahmaputra valley Exploration Project and its target fixed, sector-wise; and

(d) the target fixed for modernisation of Assam refineries and marketing network in the context of national and international competitive environment and non-polluting product pattern?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUS-WAMY): (a) The proposed crude thruput of refineries located in Assam during 1999-2000 is given as under:—

Refining capacity (in thousand tonnes)		Crude thruput (in thousand tonnes)
AOD-Digboi lOC-Guwahati BRPL-Bongaigaon NRL-Numaligarh	650 1000 2350 3000	600 900 2000 1615
TOTAL	7000	5115

The present sourcing of the above crude oil is given below:—

	Crude Availability (in TMT)
ONGC-Assam	1968
OIL-Assam	3093
JVC-Kharsang	54
TOTAL	5115

The proposed sourcing of crude oil in future will be from oil fields of Assam, supplemented by imported crude supplies to BRPL Refineiy.

(b) Production of crude oil and natural gas in Assam during the year 1998-99 was 5.12 Million Metric Tonnes and 2069 Million Standard Cubic Metres respectively. The production of oil and gas has been projected at 4.97 Million Metric Tonnes and 2074 Million Standard Cubic Metres respectively, in 1999-2000.

(c) Oil India Ltd. has so far drilled 4 wells on the North Bank of River Brahmputra. However, there has not been any commercial hydrocarbon discovery. Hence, no target has been fixed for crude oil and gas production from the area.

(d) Refinery-wise position is as under:—

Digboi Refinery

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (lOCL) has already invested Rs. 325 crore for modernisation of Digboi Refinery, Rs. 69 crore for Catalytic Reforming Unit and Rs. 118 crore for New Delayed Coker Unit.

In addition to above new Projects viz. Wax Hydrofinishing Unit, Solvent Dewaxing Unit and Hydrotreater Unit at an estimated total cost of Rs. 804 crore have been taken up for improving product quality and production of value added products.

Guwahati Refinery

Various projects viz. Yield & Energy Optimisation of Crude Distillation Unit and Delayed Coker Unit, Hydrotreater Unit,

Unleaded MS production facilities and Indmax Unit at an estimated cost of Rs. 680 crore have already been taken up for modernisation of Guwahati Refinery and also for improving product quality.

Bongaigaon Refinery

The Refinery Expansion Units of Bongaigaon Refinery commissioned in 1995-96 have been provided with modem Digital Control Systems. Optimisation of its process units to improve the plant efficiency and performance by implementing Advance Process Control System (APCS) have already been taken up. Projects for Product Quality Improvements have been taken for study.

Numaligargh Refinery

Numaligarh Refinery has been set up as one of the most modern and energy efficient Refineries in the country incorporating state-of-art technologies.

Allotment of LPG, Thesel outlets to Tribal People

1625. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govemment have any proposal to formulate policy to exclusively reserve the allotment of dealership of petrol pump/LPG and Thesel outlet to the tribal people in the tribal areas; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUS-WAMY): (a) and (b) As per the existing policy 25% dealerships^ distributorships are reserved for Scheduled CastesScheduled Tribes. Keeping in view of the fact that majority of the population in Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Mizoram betong to Scheduled Tribes, higher percentage of reservation for Scheduled Tribes in the allotment of dealershiptiistributorships have been provided as per details given below: